# Skim, Scan, Run! An Active Approach to Developing Reading Macroskills

#### On your marks ... get set ... read!

#### In this webinar, we will:

- share information about *English Teaching Forum*'s 60th anniversary celebration
- consider two essential reading macroskills, skimming and scanning
- examine a dynamic way to get students out of their seats as they collaborate and communicate during a reading race that involves a variety of texts
- explore adaptation ideas for various contexts







### Kevin McCaughey & Heather Benucci



Kevin is a Regional English Language Officer based at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, Serbia. He was part of the first American English webinar series in 2009 and has offered many webinars since. Kevin is also a regular contributor to *English Teaching Forum* and is a member of the Editorial Board. His articles often have a focus on the nexus of movement and learning.



Heather is an EFL teacher educator who has led virtual professional development programs for teachers from over 100 countries. She is a long-time American English Live webinar producer and has been an English Language Specialist for projects in the Balkans region, Russia, and Brazil. Heather is an *English Teaching Forum* author and Contributing Editor ... she loves to read and run!









# Skim, Scan, Run!

An Active Approach to Developing Reading Macroskills

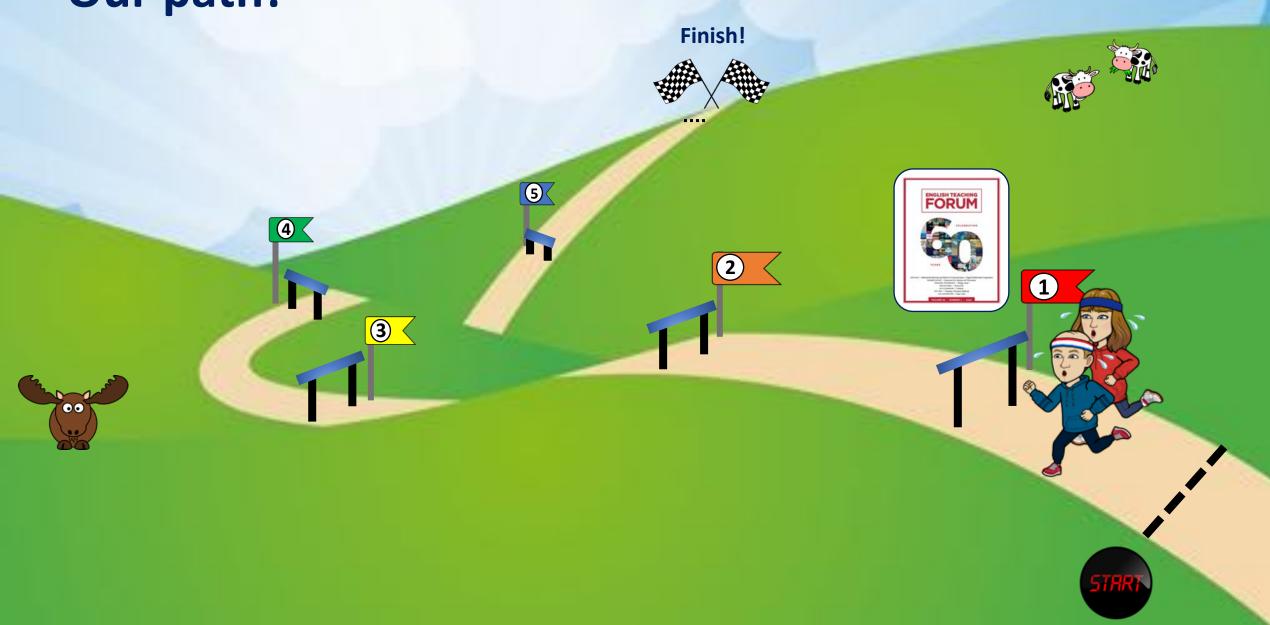




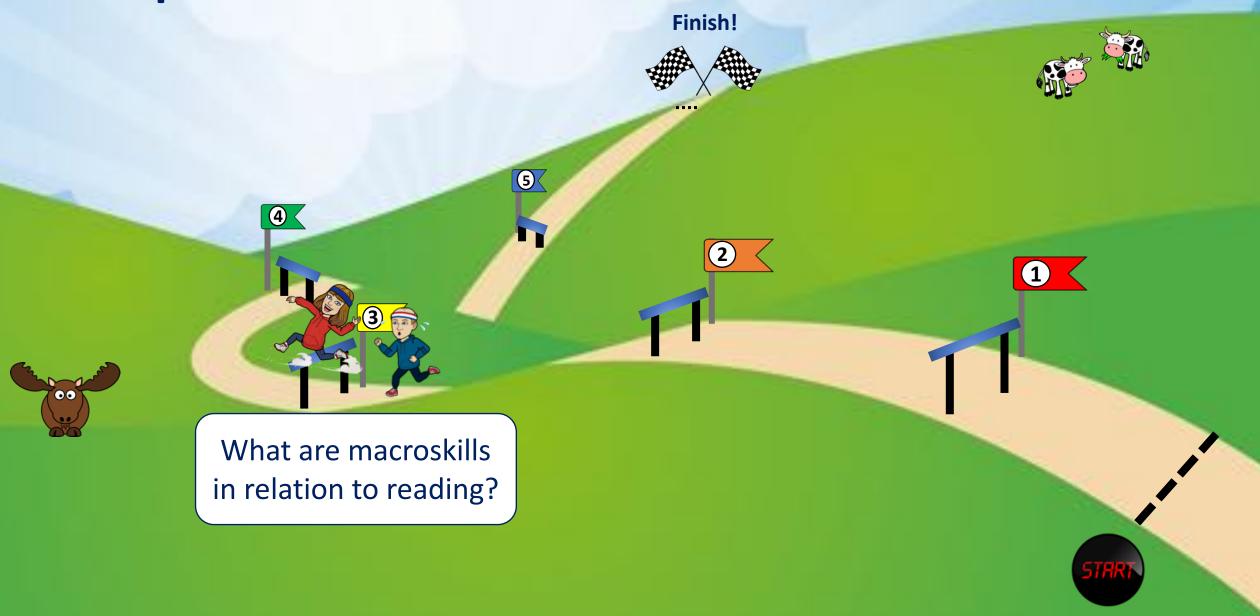


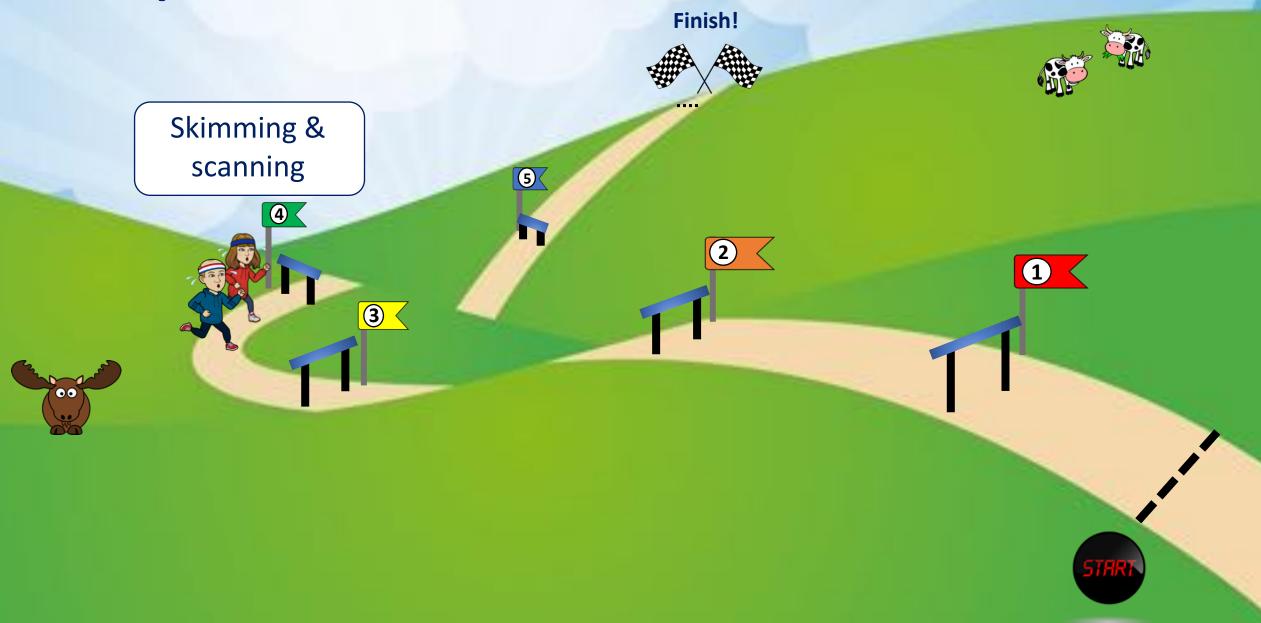
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# Fast action break!



S-t-r-e-t-c-h!





# FORUM



ARTICLES • Multimodal Materials and Modes of Communication | Digital Multimodal Composition READER'S GUIDE • Questions for Analysis and Discussion

TEACHING TECHNIQUES . Mingle Away!

REFLECTIONS . Forum at 60

MY CLASSROOM . Lebanon

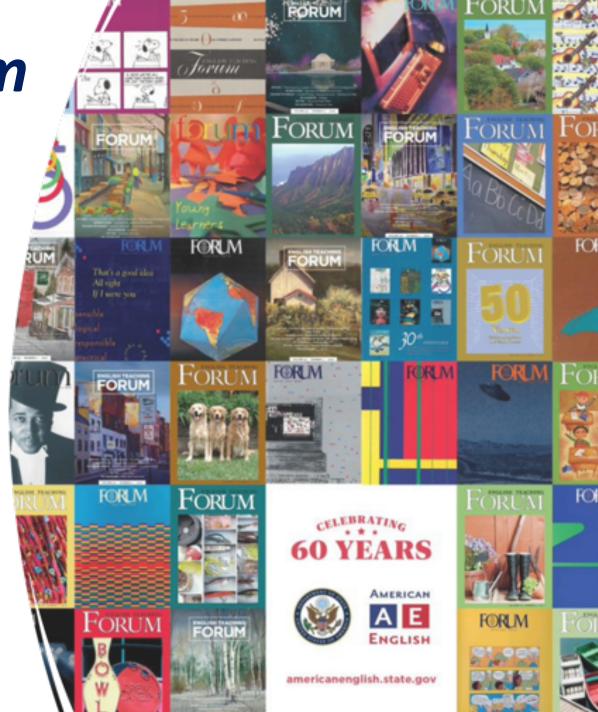
TRY THIS . Creating a Narrative Flipbook

THE LIGHTER SIDE . Sixty Years

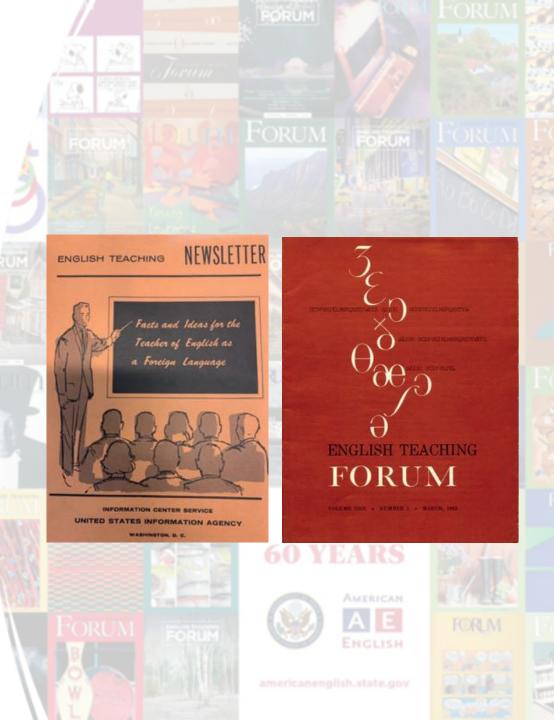
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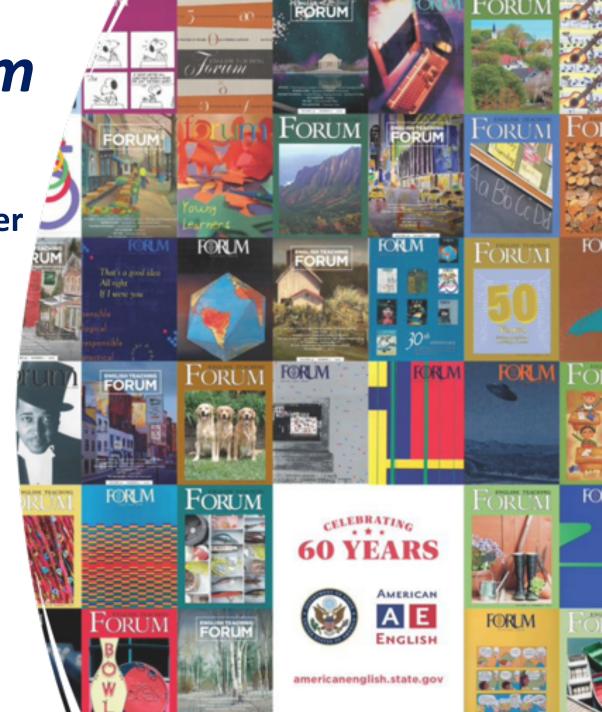
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- 2. Read in more than \_\_\_\_ countries
- 3. Authors are \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Cost to readers = \_\_\_\_\_



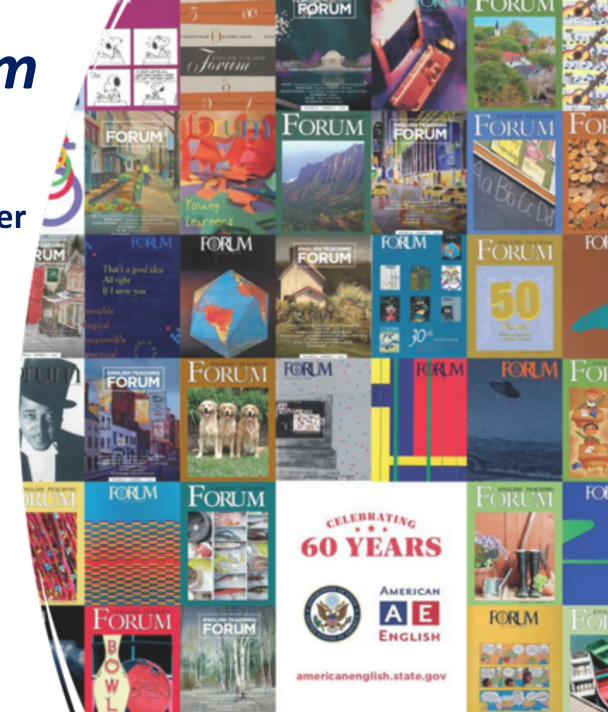
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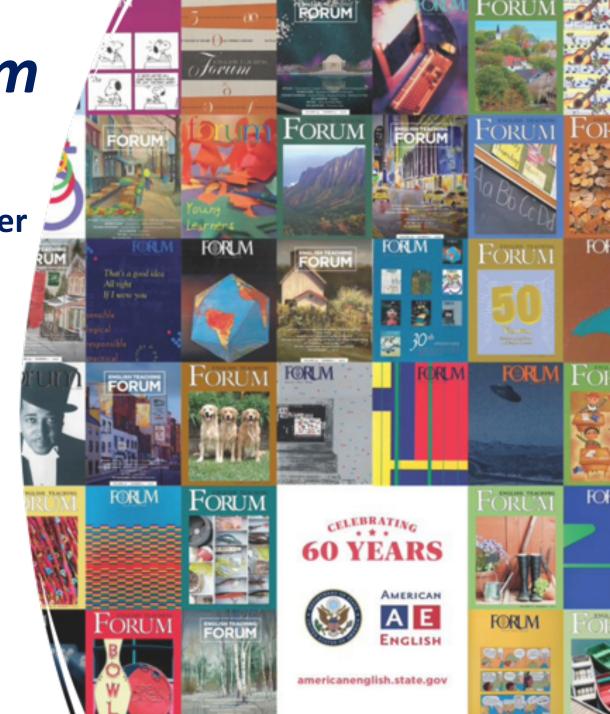


- 1. First published in 1962 as a newsletter
- 2. Read in more than 120 countries
- 3. Authors are \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Cost to readers = \_\_\_\_\_

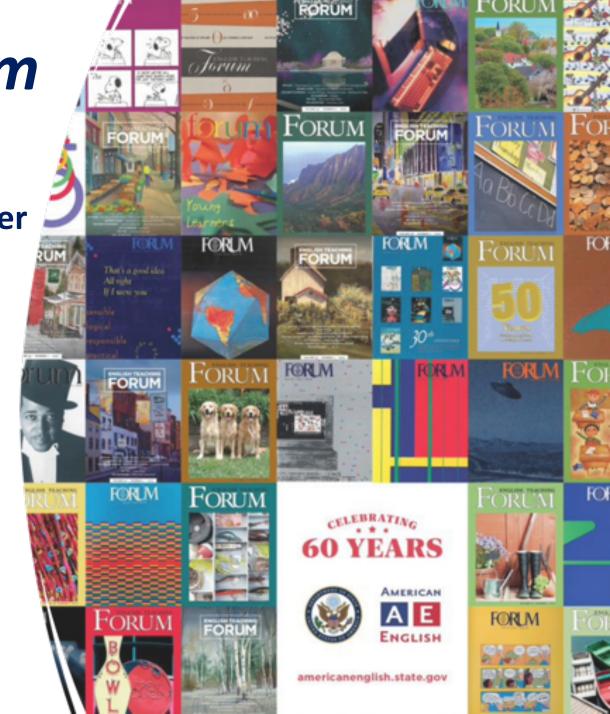


- 1. First published in 1962 as a newsletter
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- 3. Authors are teachers
- 4. Cost to readers = \_\_\_\_\_





- 1. First published in 1962 as a newsletter
- 2. Read in more than **120** countries
- 3. Authors are **teachers**
- 4. Cost to readers = **FREE!**



# Finding English Teaching Forum



## We want YOU in English Teaching Forum

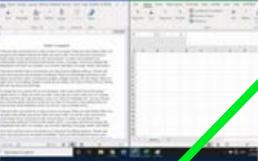


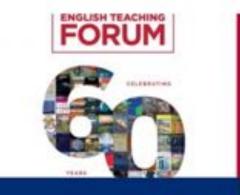
# FORUM

Forum Journal

#### A Quarterly Journal for English Teachers







#### CURRENT ISSUE

Find strategies for using nonprofit commercials as the basis for topic-based and project-based learning ... assessing learners' productive vocabulary knowledge ... helping pre-service teachers observe classes more effectively... practicing tense and aspect in a creative, collaborative activity ... conducting "small talks" as warm-up and review ... and much more.

#### **BONUS ARTICLE!**

Learn how the split-screen function can simplify the process of marking assignments that your students have submitted electronically, and discover tips for using the split-screen function for other teaching purposes in this bonus article, available only online.

#### PAST ISSUES

Read articles written by teachers for teachers, with classroom ideas and activities, plus suggestions for professional development.

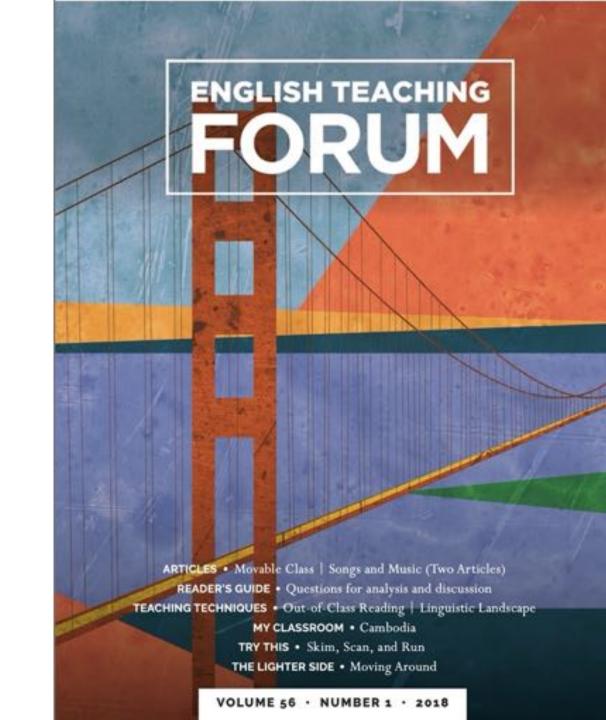
# Navigating a Forum issue

**Articles** 

Teaching Techniques
Try This

My Classroom

The Lighter Side



#### The Movable Class: How to Class-Manage for More Active and Healthful Lessons

urniture—namely, desks and chairs—defines our classroom spaces and often the way we teach. Some teachers are fortunate: their classrooms have hybrid desk-chairs that can be picked up and moved. But even these are often arranged in rows, and they stay that way. Throughout much of the world, classroom desks are heavy, sometimes bolted to the floor, sometimes with benches attached. and shared by three or four students. At universities, lecturers face auditoriums with tiered rows of connected, immovable seats.

Traditional classroom design offers a clear message: "Students should sit still and listen." But today's research tells a different. story. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2010, 6) "found positive associations between classroom-based physical activity and indicators of cognitive skills and attitudes, academic behavior, and academic achievement."

Teachers of young learners have long known that if you want kids involved in your learning scheme, you had better reward them with action. Teachers of older students, at grammar schools and high schools—certainly at universities -- have been slower to take up the idea, associating movement with play, a lack of seriousness, and loss of discipline.

My purpose in writing this article is to persuade teachers of English at all levels to allow for more student movement, even if just a little. I call this approach to a dynamic classroom space a Movable Class. To begin, let's compare the principle differences

between a Movable Class and a traditional class (see Figure 1).

Maybe your class is fine the way it is. Why go to the effort to add more movement?

Here's why. By adopting Morable Class methods, by eventually thinking mosoble, you will use more group work and do so more effectively; you will design more studentcentered activities; you will become a more confident classroom manager and vastly increase the range of your teacher's tool kit; and I think you will have more fun. I know students will.

But the single most convincing reason to give the Movable Class a try is that getting students out of their desks is good for their health.

In the first part of this article, we will see how lack of movement, especially prolonged sitting, has serious health consequences. In the second part, we will examine how teachers can break that sitting cycle by

#### **READER'S GUIDE**

his guide is designed to enrich your reading of the articles in this issue. You may choose to read them on your own, taking notes or jotting down answers to the discussion questions below. Or you may use the guide to explore the articles with colleagues.

For example, many teachers discuss Forum at regularly scheduled meetings with department colleagues and members of teachers' groups, or in teacher-training courses and workshops. Often, teachers choose an article for their group to read before the meeting or class, then discuss that article when they meet. Teachers have found it helpful to take notes on articles or write a response to an article and bring that response to share in a discussion group. Another idea is for teachers to try a selected activity or technique described in one of the articles, then report back to the group on their experiences and discuss positives, negatives, and possible adaptations for their teaching context.

#### The Movable Class: How to Class-Manage for More Active and Healthful Lessons (Pages 2-13)

#### Pre-Reading

- 1. In your classes, how much time do students typically spend moving around? Make an estimate. Is it zero percent of the class time? Is it ten percent, 20 percent -- or more? Do you think that's enough? Would you like to add more movement to your classes?
- If your classes include movement, what benefits: does movement give your students (and you)?
- 3. If your classes don't include movement, what are the reasons?
- Take a moment to think of your favorite activities. and classroom tasks, the things you do again and again in your classes. List them here:

Save this list. You'll come back to it after you have finished reading the article.

#### Post-Reading

- 1. The article presents a number of reasons to incorporate movement into your classes. How many reasons can you remember without going back to the article to check? (Take a moment to remember them.) Now go back and check the article. How does your own experience with using movement in the classroom match the benefits the author describes?
- 2. Think of a reason for not using movement in your classes. Now ... pretend you are the author of this article. What do you think the author would say or suggest if he beard your reason for not using movement?
- 3. Which movement-based idea from the article are you most likely to try first? Think of a way to incorporate it into the next class you teach. Afterward, reflect on the experience. What happened? Is there anything you might change the next time you try it? Which idea do you want
- 4. Go back to the list of tasks and activities you wrote in response to Pre-Reading Question #4. Think. How can you make each of them more morable? Write down your ideas, and if you can, share and discuss them with a colleague.

## Navigating a Forum issue

Articles Reader's Guide

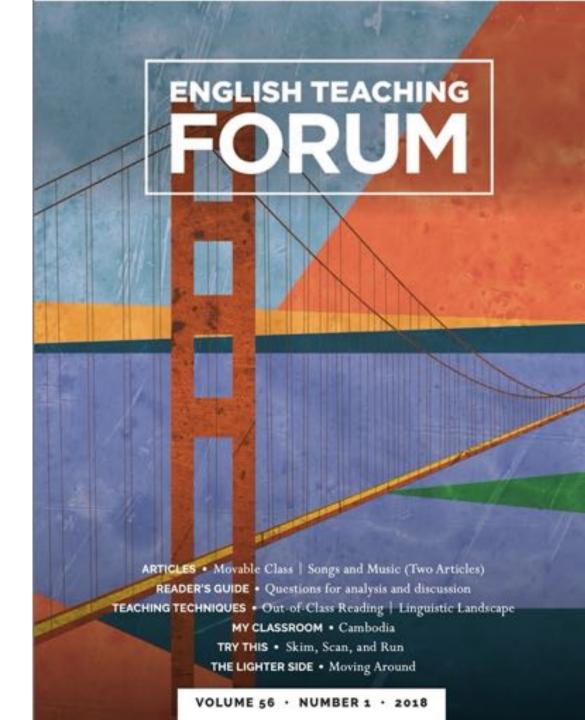
TEACHING TECHNIQUES

TRY THUS

My Classroom

The Lighter Side

Classroom-ready ideas!



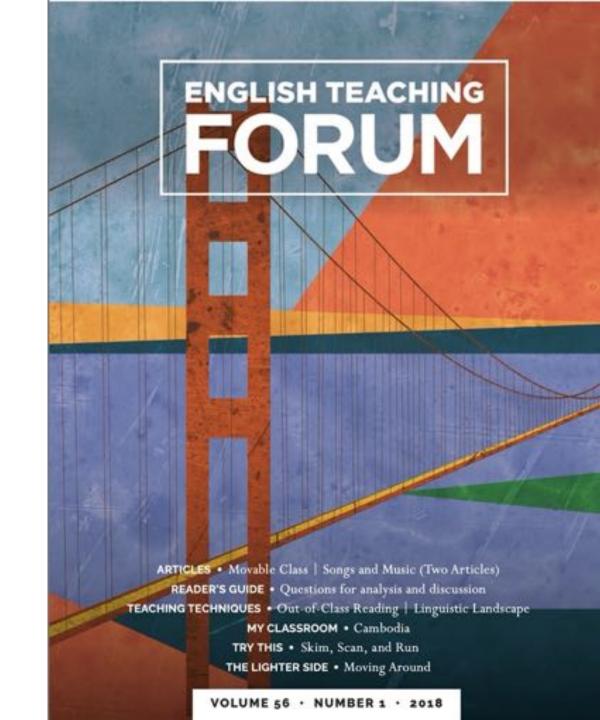
# Navigating a Forum issue

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#### MY CLASSROOM CAMBODIA

arina Monh, a lecturer at the prestigious Royal University of Phnom Penh's (RUPP) Institute of Foreign Languages (IFL), comes from a family of teachers. Her father's family taught Khmer literature and mathematics, while her mother's family members were doctors, nurses, and midwives who trained and mentored others. Still, she said, "I didn't expect to become a teacher. I accidentally liked the English language."



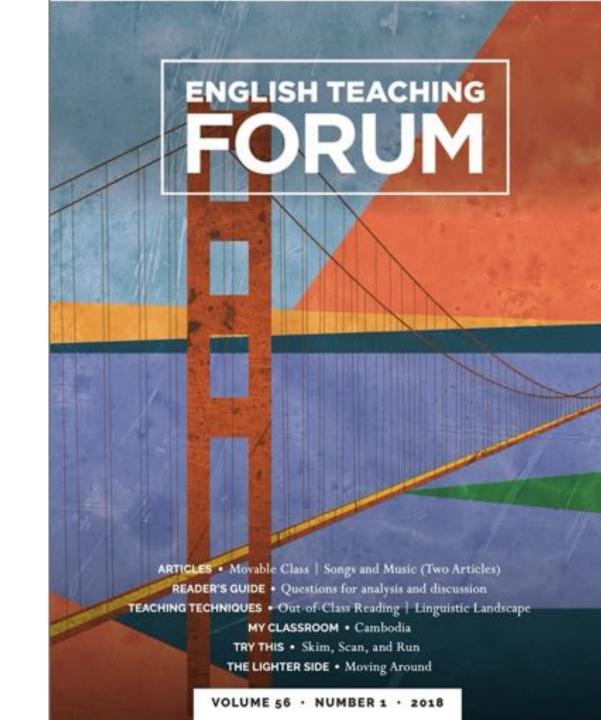
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#### THE LIGHTER SIDE

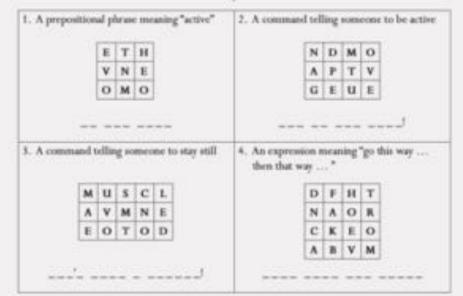
#### **Moving Around**

Many expressions in English include the word move—for example, move in, make the first move, move mountains. Each of the boxes below contains letters spelling an expression or sentence with the word move. Your job is to find the answers in each puzzle by connecting the letters to form an expression or sentence that uses all the letters provided. You can connect the letters by moving up, down, across, or diagonally, but you can move only one space at a time. For example, the letters in Box A can be connected to spell move shead, as shown in Box B, beginning in the lower right-hand corner:

Box A		
E	A	н
٧	0	E
D	٨	м



Read each of the class below and find the answer in the box below the class. Then write the answer in the spaces provided. Remember, you can move only one box (in any direction) to get to the next letter—and the word move is in every answer!



Test your skills after the webinar!

This puzzle is on the OPEN Webinar Resource Center:

https://openenglishcommunity.org/page/series-13

# Keeping up with Forum 60th Anniversary events

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American English for Educators serves as a resource center for teaching American English language an



# Keeping up with Forum 60th Anniversary events

Subscribe to the

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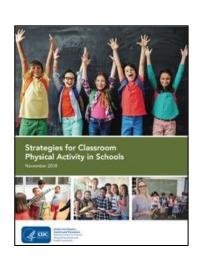




# Why active learning?

### 1. Classroom movement has multiple benefits:

- Improves student concentration and ability to stay on task
- Reduces disruptive behavior
- Improves motivation and engagement
- Improves academic performance
- Increases students' amount of daily physical activity



2. Active learning tasks break the cycle of prolonged sitting.

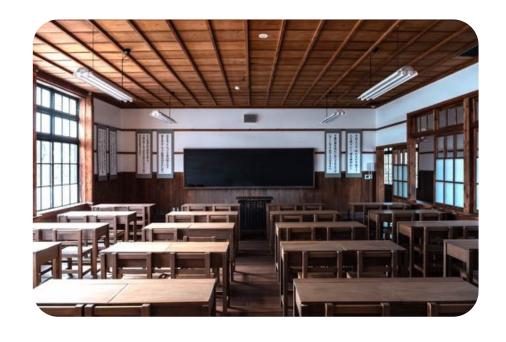
3. During the last two years we've done lots of screen learning. Sitting.

Let's challenge ourselves to support more active engagement in class and online!

#### Tell us in the chat ...

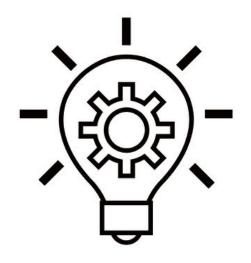


In a face-to-face class, how often do you have students get out of their seats?





## Now, think ...



In your online classes, how often do your students get out of their seats?

Is there a difference? Why?







#### Tell us in the chat ....



What are some of the obstacles you might face in making lessons active in your physical classroom?



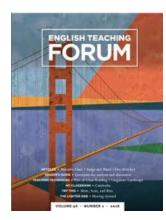
#### Tell us in the chat ....



What are some of the obstacles you might face in making lessons active in your physical classroom?



Find ideas for overcoming these obstacles in "The Moveable Class"



## Fast action break!



**Action Answers** 







Yes

Sort of Not sure

No

#### Question 1

### Do you like raw garlic?







No

#### Question 2

#### Have you ever been scared by a monkey?







#### **Question 3**

# Can you name one reading macroskill or microskill?





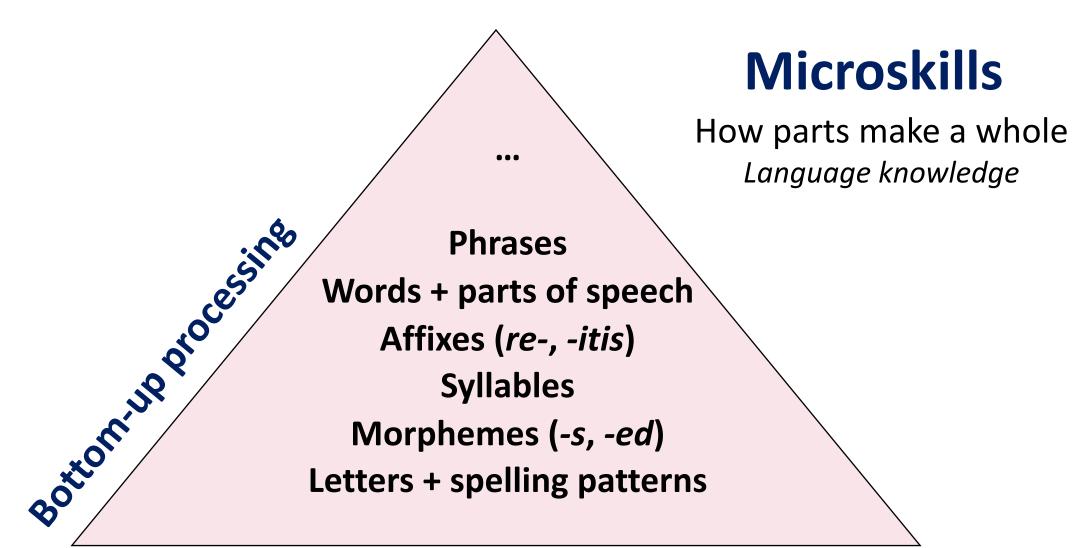


No

### Our path!



### **Reading: Processing & Skills**



### **Reading: Processing & Skills**

Applying a mix of reading strategies

Identifying a text's function

Deciding what information is important

Seeing relationships

**Making inferences** 

**Summarizing** 

**Macroskills** 

Looking at the whole:
What does the text signify?
Life, language, and cultural knowledge

Scanning
Skimming
Guessing meaning from context
Applying cultural knowledge

#### Tell us in the chat ...



Which are more important to readers, macroskills or microskills?

Why?

#### **Macroskills**

Looking at the whole: What does the text signify? Life, language, and cultural knowledge

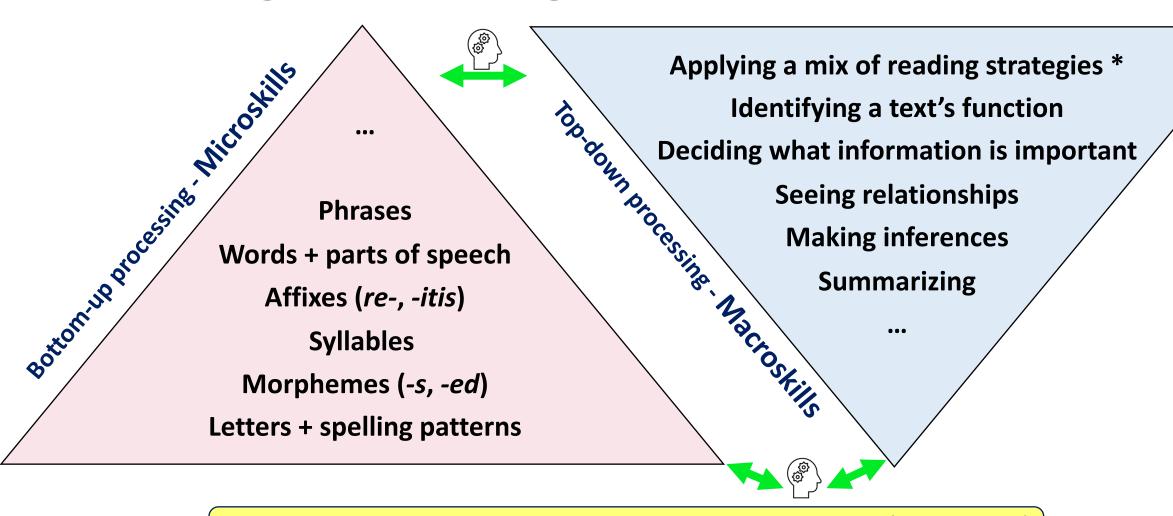




Microskills

How parts make a whole Language knowledge

### **Reading: Processing & Skills**



Background knowledge and experiences (schema)

## Fast action break!



## Our path!



#### **Doctor Skim**

## Skim for preliminary info



### **Doctor Skim's Tips**

#### Sk<u>im</u> for prel<u>im</u>inary info



- ✓ Title and subtitles
- ✓ First and last paragraph
- ✓ Topic sentences
- ✓ Pictures, charts, figures

#### **Professor Scan**



Scan for answers

### **Professor Scan's Tips**



### Scan for answers

- ✓ Use finger or a tool to focus
- ✓ Review surrounding text for relevance
- ✓ Use what you know: organization patterns, symbols, positional information
- ✓ Don't forget: labels, charts, figures



- 1. Grab a pencil or pen + paper.
- 2. Skim and scan to find the answers in the text on the next slide.
- 3. Write the answers down.

  Don't write answers in the chat, please.
- 4. We'll check the answers as a group.

You'll have 45 seconds ....

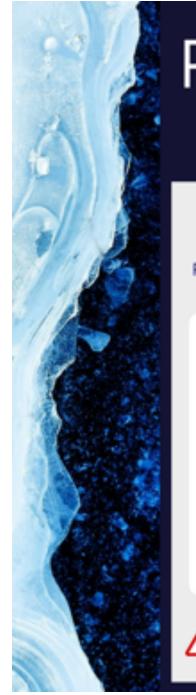
- 1. Why is a warmer climate a threat to polar bears?
- 2. How far can a polar bear swim without resting?



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- 1. Why is a warmer climate a threat to polar bears?
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### **POLAR BEARS** DID YOU KNOW?



Polar bears live in Arctic coastal areas and on sea ice.







Polar bears do spend time in the water and on land, but they hunt for food, rest, and raise their cubs on the sea ice.



#### Aa SCIENTIFIC NAME

Ursus maritimus; "sea bear"



#### WEIGHT

800 - 1,300 pounds (360 - 590 kg)



#### HEIGHT

6 - 10 feet (1.8 - 3 m)



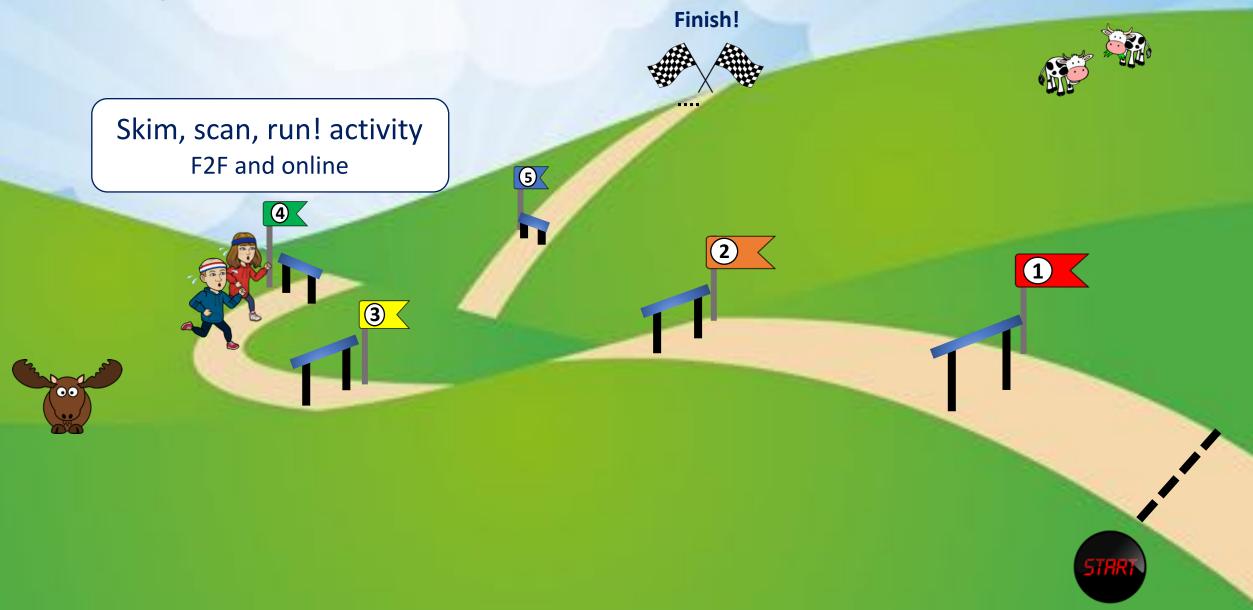






In 2008, these marine mammals were listed as a threatened species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act because their habitat is being lost due to climate change.

## Our path!



### Skim, scan, run!

Level: intermediate - advanced

Time required: 20 - 40 minutes

#### **Goals:**

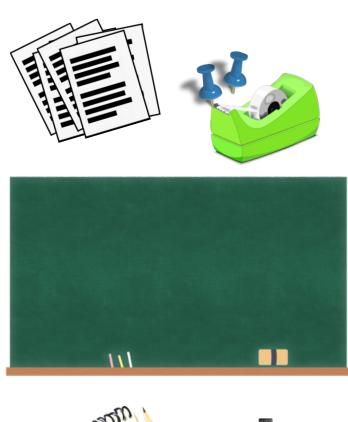
- Practice skimming and scanning strategies
- Talk to teammates to strategize and to confirm answers
- MOVE!



### **Preparation**

#### **Materials:**

- 5 short texts
- Tape or pins
- Board + chalk or pens
- Paper + pencils or pens
- Clock or timer





#### A note on text selection

#### The texts can...

- connect to the curriculum or student interests
- relate to a theme or be about different topics
- be at the same or vary in difficulty level
- represent different genres



#### **Example texts**

Rhinos mind their own business. They grass from the ground, or, depending of love to roll in the mud, too. Mud keeps

I've sat in my car and watched rhinos n for 20 minutes.

"Rock-licker," I called him.

Then he rubbed his chin on the rock. A "Rock-rubber," I called him.

Rhinos have marvelous ears. Have you curled leaf, or flower petals, or a grace

Rhinos seem mythical or magical to sor horn. Actually, they have two horns, bu behind the idea of the unicorn. When p they want that thing. In the case of rhin cut off their horns, even though the ho your hair or fingernails. But people wh don't seem to care that there are only a

I wish they would mind their own busing Rhinos mind their own business. They don't try to sell you anything or ask for Take time to get to know rhinos on Wo September 22.

Taking Car

Oceans provide a home to amazing creats and coral. Oceans are a renewable source generate most of the planet's oxygen by s plankton. Oceans also help to regulate gle Unfortunately, although humans receive r enemy, as consumers of energy and as pol activities affect the health of our oceans? I have a positive impact. Here are a few thi

- Dispose of trash properly. Don't litter
- Recycle or reuse materials. Plastic iten harmful to oceans and to sea creatures make reusable shopping bags.
- Reduce your "carbon footprint" (the ar nonrenewable sources). Bike, walk, car and school. Use energy-efficient lights one is using them.
- Participate in a beach, river, or lake cle these areas when you visit them.

## **POLAR BEARS**

DID YOU KNOW?



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Aa. SCIENTIFIC NAME

Ursus maritimus: "sea bear"



800 - 1,300 pounds (360 - 590 kg)



6 - 10 feet (1.8 - 3 m)



POLAR BEARS more than without rest



In 2008, these marine mammals were listed as a threatened species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act because their habitat is being lost due to climate change.

#### Tell us in the chat ....

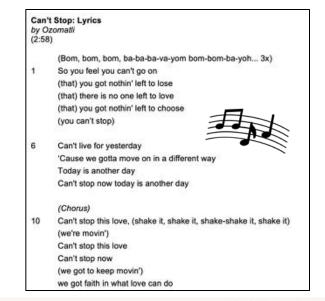


What other types of texts (genres) might you use to practice skimming and scanning?

### Texts: nearly endless options!



















**Nutrition Facts** 

6 servings per container Serving size 8 fl oz (240 mL)

#### Made With:

CARRAGEENAN

FREE

Almondmilk (Water, Almonds), Coconut Cream, Calcium Carbonate, Sunflower Lecithin, Sea Salt, Natural Flavors, Potassium Citrate, Locust Bean Gum, Gellan Gum, Monk Fruit Extract.

Perishable. Keep Refrigerated. Shake Well For Best Taste.

Consume within 7-10 days of opening.











ike a dictator. 2 overbearing or orially adv. [Latin: related total) adv. [Latin: related total) diction /'diks(a)n/n. manner ciation in speaking or singing dictio from dico dict-say] dictionary /'diksanari/n. (p book listing (usu. alphabetic explaining the words of a largiving corresponding words it language. 2 reference book explaining the words of a larguage.

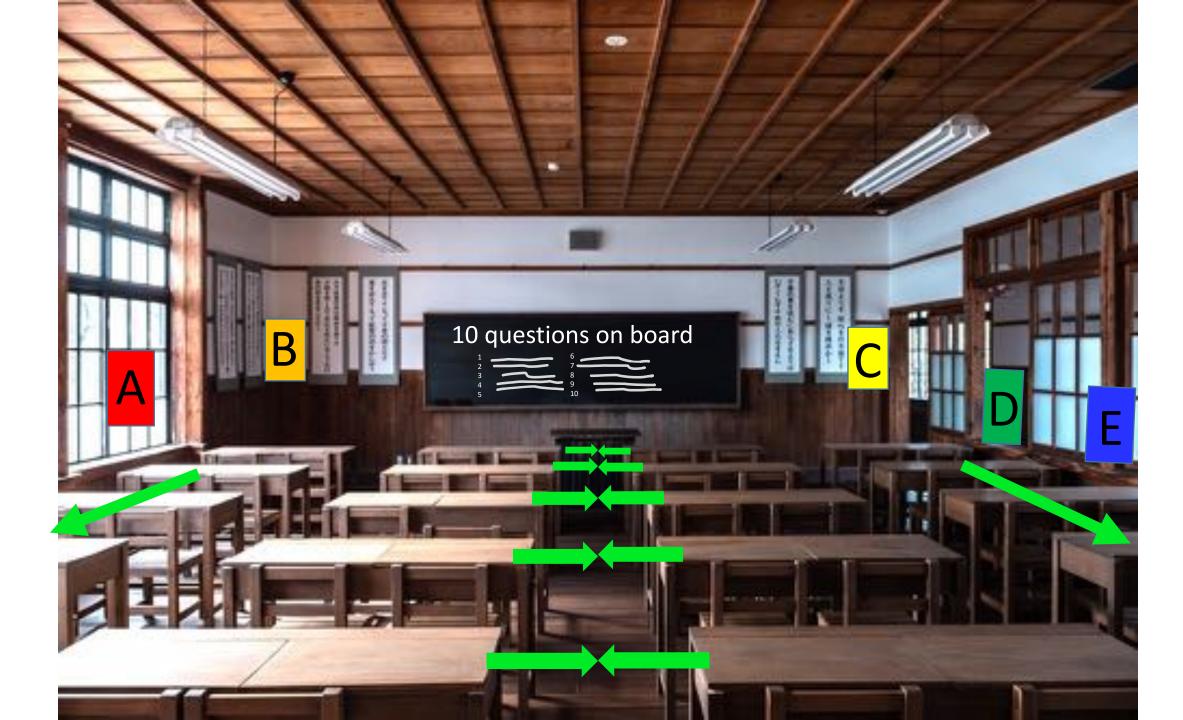


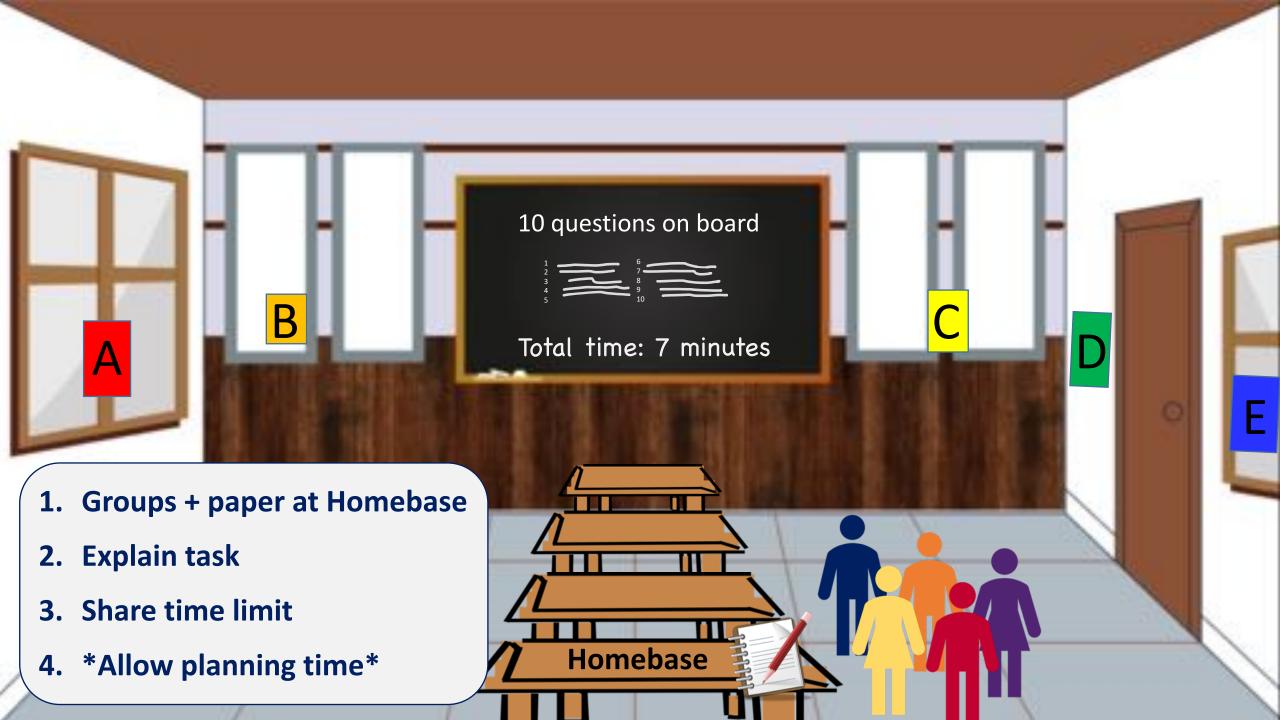
#### **Preparation**

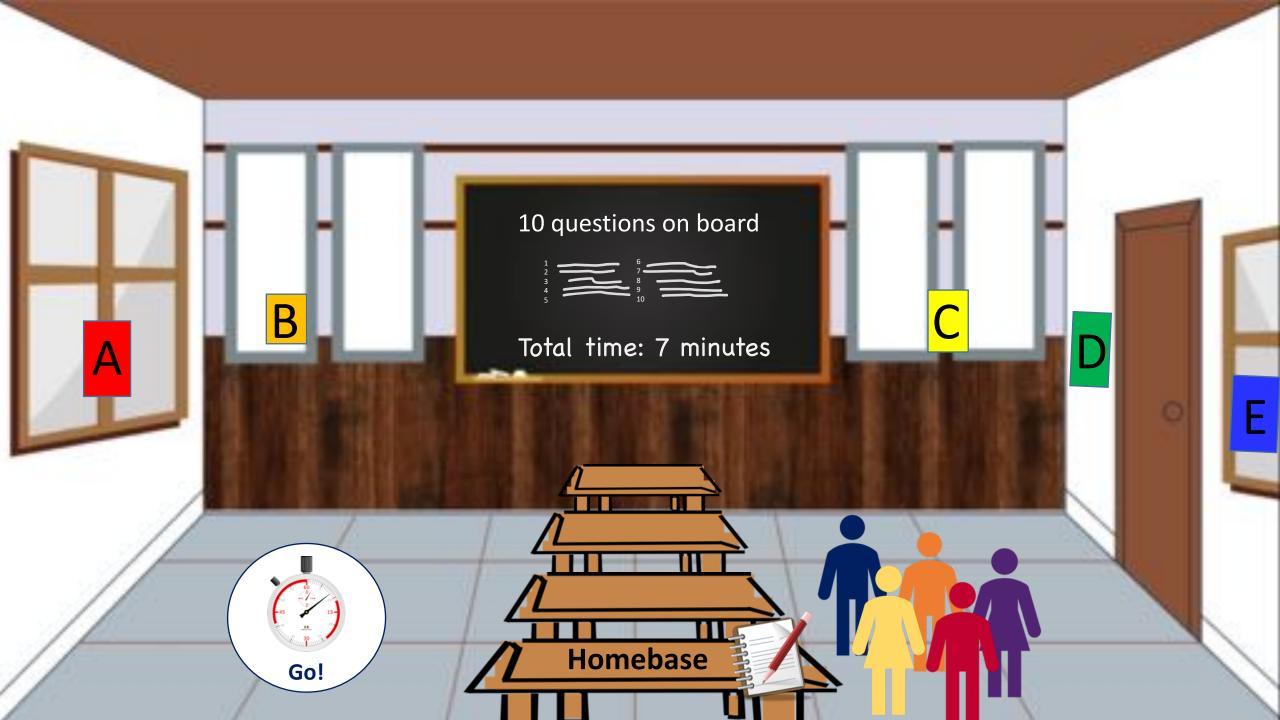
- Post texts around the room
- Create 10 skimming and scanning questions
  - Number the questions
  - Write on board, project, or make handouts

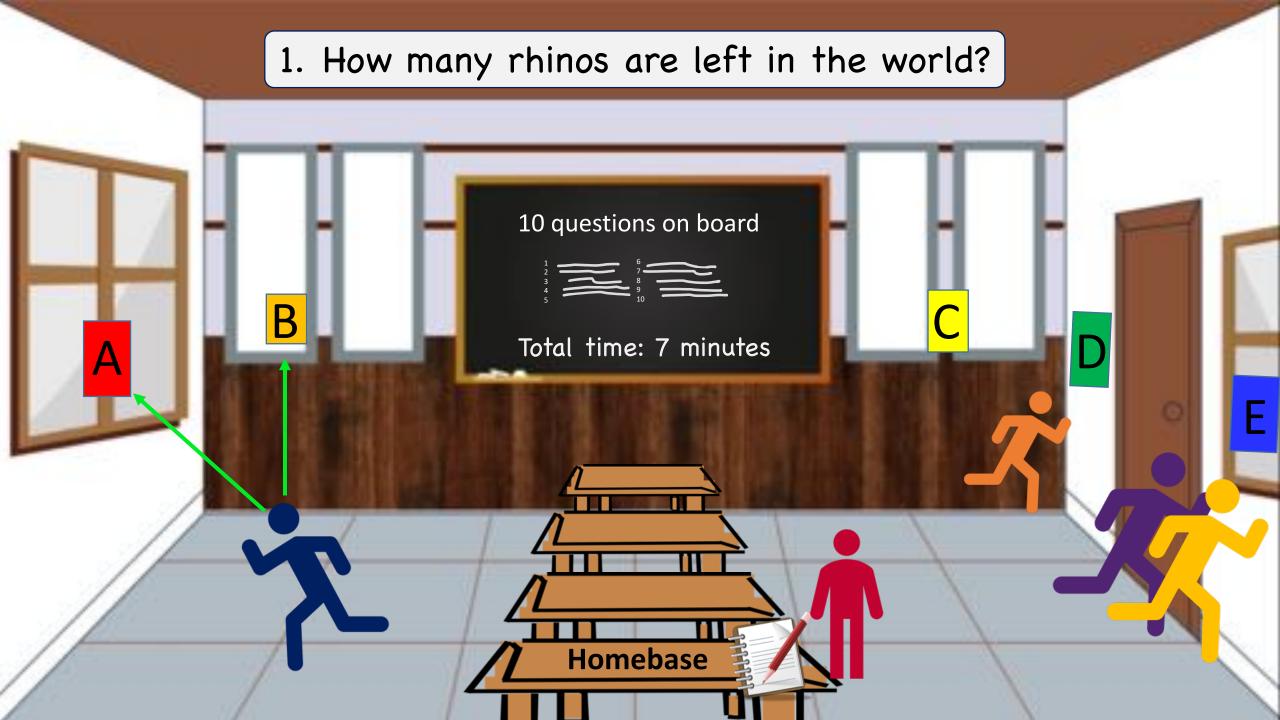
#### Example questions:

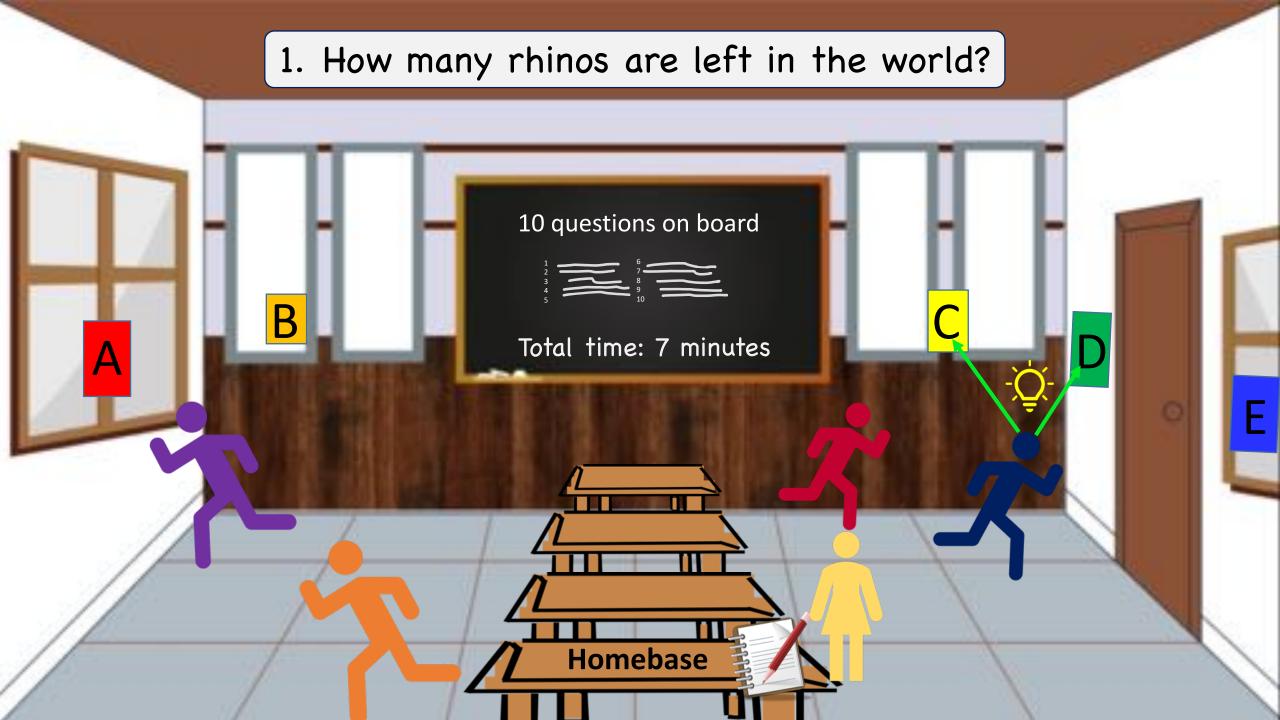
- 1. How many rhinos are left in the world?
- 2. Which article focuses on how to solve an environmental challenge?

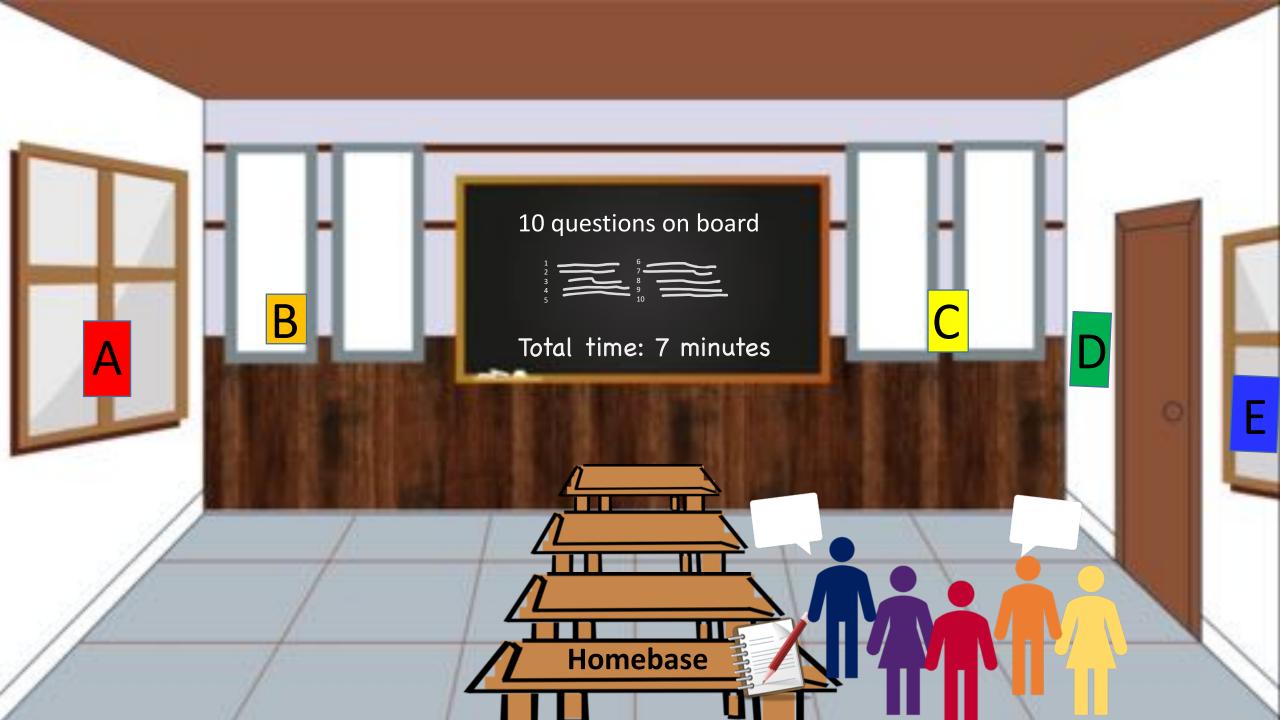


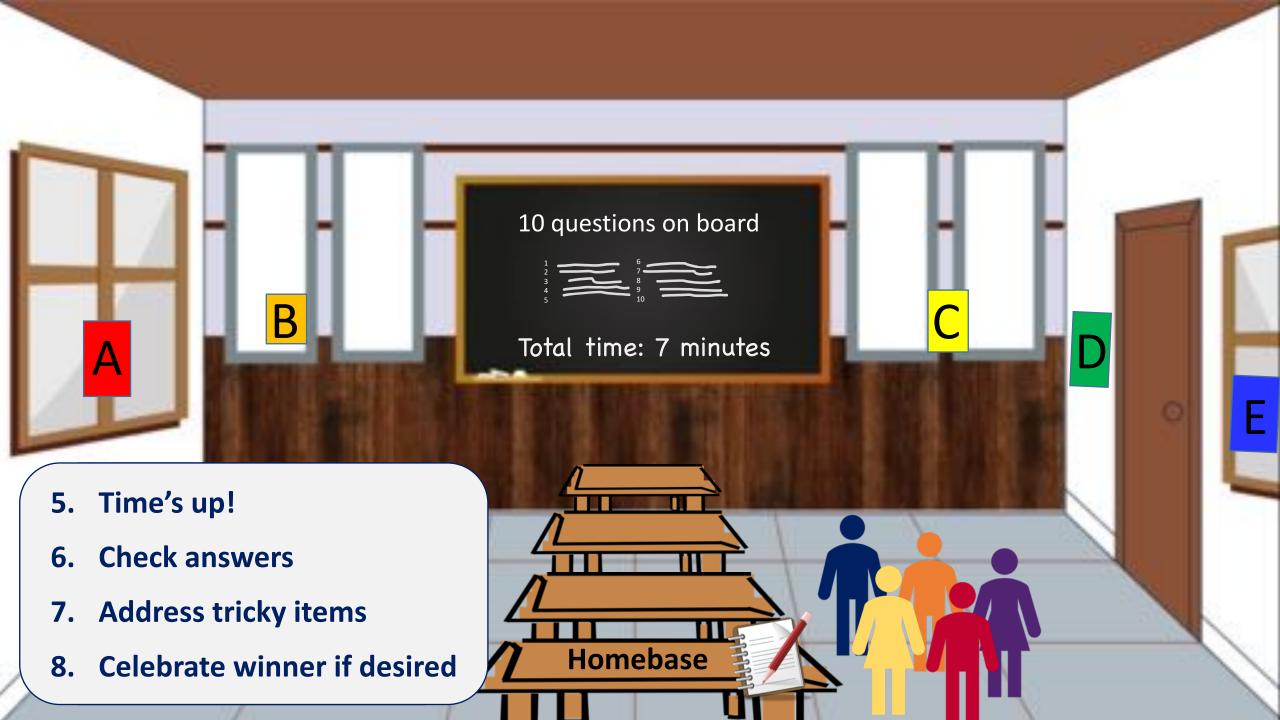








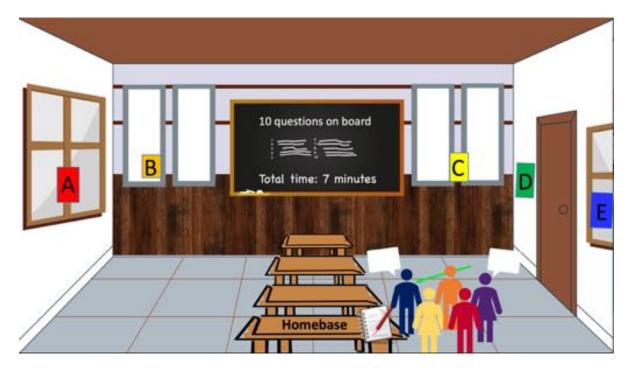




### Tell us in the chat ....



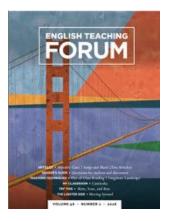
How might you vary or adapt this activity?
What could you change?



### **Variations**

- Adjust the difficulty level
- Manage large classes by posting two (or more) sets of texts
- Vary skill focus with audio or video texts

Find more variation details in the "Skim, Scan, and Run" article



# Listening variation with word slips



# Skim, Scan, Run - Online

#### **Materials:**

- A short digital text
- Paper + pencils or pens
- Clock or timer



#### **Preparation:**

- Create skimming and scanning questions
- Create scavenger hunt list based on the skim/scan answers

#### Taking Care of Our Oceans

Oceans provide a home to amazing creatures like fish, marine mammals, sea reptiles, and coral. Oceans are a renewable source of food and power for humans, and they generate most of the planet's oxygen by supporting sea plants like kelp, algae, and plankton. Oceans also help to regulate global temperatures.

Unfortunately, although humans receive many benefits from oceans, we are their biggest enemy, as consumers of energy and as polluters. Have you thought about how your daily activities affect the health of our oceans? Making simple changes in your routines can have a positive impact. Here are a few things you can do:

- Dispose of trash properly. Don't litter on land or in water!
- Recycle or reuse materials. Plastic items, including bottles, can be particularly harmful to oceans and to sea creatures. Use reusable food or drink containers. Buy or make reusable shopping bags.
- Reduce your "carbon footprint" (the amount of energy that you use from nonrenewable sources). Bike, walk, carpool, or take public transportation to work and school. Use energy-efficient lights and appliances, and turn them off when no one is using them.
- Participate in a beach, river, or lake cleanup project. Or just pick up trash you see in these areas when you visit them.

- Digitally share text and questions.
- Ask students to individually record answers in a set amount of time.
- Check answers as a group.

#### **Skimming & scanning questions**

- 1. What are two ways to reduce the amount of plastic waste that pollutes oceans?
- 2. What is the author's purpose for writing the text?
- 3. What are two kinds of sea plants that produce oxygen in the air we breathe?

- Virtually share scavenger hunt list
- Ask students to find items and bring them back to share
  - Hunt for items one-by-one or all at once
  - Share with whole class or in breakout rooms

#### Skim & scan answers

# 1. What are two ways to reduce the amount of plastic waste that pollutes oceans?

recycle and reuse

- 2. What is the author's purpose for writing the text?
  - Share benefits of & threats to oceans, ask people to help
- 3. What are two kinds of sea plants that produce oxygen in the air we breathe?

algae, kelp

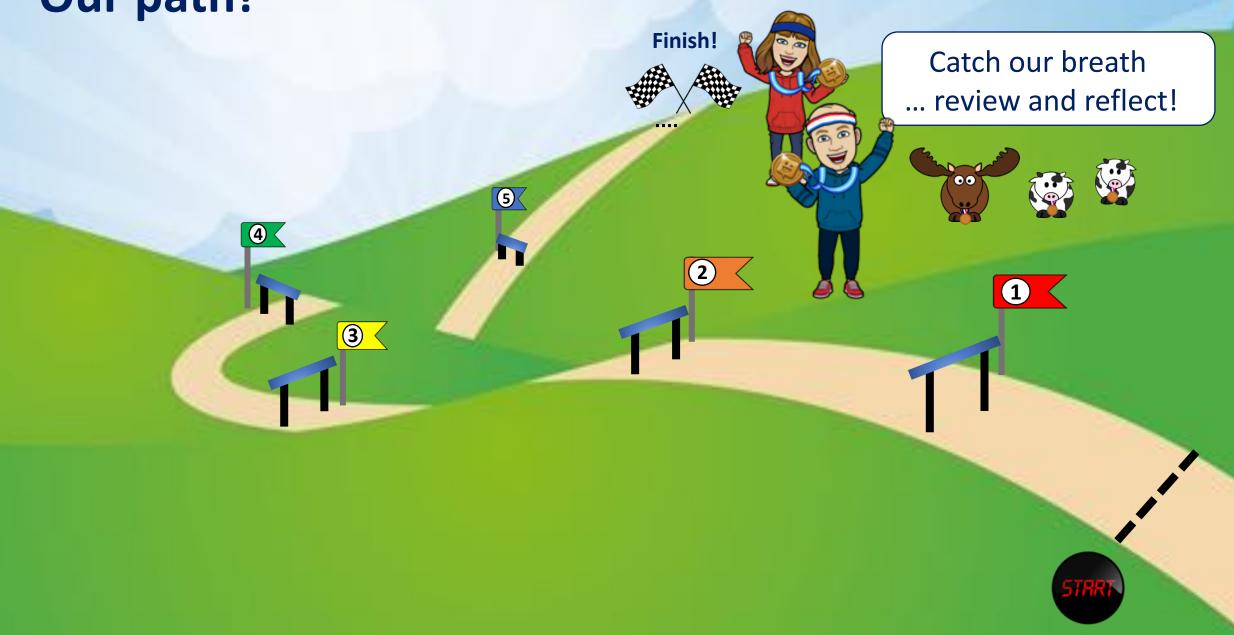
#### **Scavenger hunt list**

- 1. Find something plastic that you can recycle.
- 2. Find something that makes you think of the ocean and why it is special.
- 3. Find a plant that is producing oxygen in your space (a picture is fine, too!)

### Let's do it! Skim, Scan, RUN

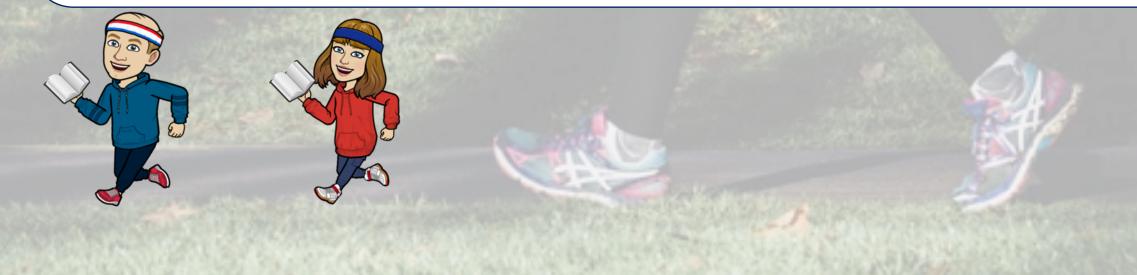
- 1. Find something plastic that you can recycle.
- 2. Find something that makes you think of the ocean and why it is special.
- 3. Find a plant that is producing oxygen in your space (a picture is fine, too!)

# Our path!



## As we cool down, remember:

- Keep moving ... it is good for our bodies and brains!
- Developing macroskills (and microskills) can help students become more fluent, confident readers.
- Reading instruction should be fun ... because reading is AWESOME!



### References

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# Thank you!

#### **Questions or concerns?**

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# Reflection Questions

- 1. We learned about the benefits of active engagement today. How might you encourage active engagement in your classroom?
- 2. Discuss how you plan to have students practice skimming and scanning in your classroom. Which texts do you plan to use?
- 3. How might your adapt the activities shared during today's session to fit your classroom context?



